

silicon carbide (SiC) or gallium nitride (GaN), or wide band-gap semiconductors such as diamond can be also used as the semiconductor.

[0097] In the description of the above embodiments, the power semiconductor device is illustratively a MOSFET. However, the invention is suitably applicable to any power semiconductor devices having a superjunction structure. For example, the invention is applicable to SBDs, pin diodes, or IGBTs (insulated gate bipolar transistors).

1. A power semiconductor device comprising:
 - a semiconductor substrate;
 - a gate insulating film;
 - a control electrode insulated from the semiconductor substrate by the gate insulating film;
 - a first main electrode provided on a lower surface side of the semiconductor substrate; and
 - a second main electrode provided on an upper surface side of the semiconductor substrate,
 the semiconductor substrate including:
 - a first first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer with its lower surface connected to the first main electrode;
 - a second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and a third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer formed on the first first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and alternately arranged parallel to the upper surface of the semiconductor substrate;
 - a trench formed in a directly overlying region of the third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, with part of the second main electrode buried in the trench;
 - a fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer selectively formed in a surface of the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and connected to the second main electrode;
 - a fifth first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer selectively formed in a surface of the fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and connected to the second main electrode; and
 - a sixth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer formed at a bottom of the trench and connected to the second main electrode,
 impurity concentration in the sixth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer being higher than impurity concentration in the fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, and
 - lower surface of the sixth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer being located below lower surface of the fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer.
2. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein
 - impurity amount in at least one of the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and the third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer varies in thickness direction of the semiconductor substrate,
 - in an upper part of a portion composed of the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and the third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, the impurity amount in the third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer is larger than the impurity amount in the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, and
 - in a lower part of the portion composed of the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and the third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, the impurity amount in the third second-conductivity-type

semiconductor layer is smaller than the impurity amount in the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer.

3. The power semiconductor device according to claim 2, wherein impurity amount in at least one of the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and the third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer varies continuously in thickness direction of the semiconductor substrate.

4. The power semiconductor device according to claim 2, wherein impurity amount in at least one of the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and the third second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer varies stepwise in thickness direction of the semiconductor substrate.

5. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein depth of the trench is substantially equal to junction depth of the fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer.

6. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein width of a portion located above the semiconductor substrate in a protruding portion of the second main electrode is larger than width of a portion buried in the trench in the protruding portion.

7. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein the sixth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer is formed also on a sidewall of the trench.

8. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein insulated gate structure composed of the fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, the fifth first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, the gate insulating film, and the control electrode constitutes a planar gate structure.

9. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein a gate trench is formed in an upper surface of the semiconductor substrate, part of the gate insulating film is formed on an inner surface of the gate trench, and a lower portion of the control electrode is buried inside the gate trench.

10. The power semiconductor device according to claim 9, wherein lower surface of the sixth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer is located below lower surface of the control electrode.

11. The power semiconductor device according to claim 10, wherein lower surface of a portion buried in the trench in the second main electrode is located below the lower surface of the control electrode.

12. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein the sixth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer is spaced from the fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer, and on side face of a portion buried in the trench in the second main electrode, region between region in contact with the fourth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer and region in contact with the sixth second-conductivity-type semiconductor layer is in contact with the second first-conductivity-type semiconductor layer.

13. The power semiconductor device according to claim 1, further comprising a field insulating film provided on the semiconductor substrate in a termination section, and a field plate electrode in a rectangular frame configuration provided on the field insulating film.

14. The power semiconductor device according to claim 13, wherein lower surface of outer peripheral portion of the field plate electrode is shaped like a staircase, with its lower surface ascending toward outer periphery.